

OCT 31, 1977

*Deutsch
family*

FROM
THE
DESK OF
ROBERT GANS

Gans Ink and Supply Co., Inc.
1441 Boyd Street, Los Angeles, Calif. 90033

*Here is an update
on the Deutsch Family
Case. Thank You for
all Your help to date.*

Bob Gans

*Thank You, for sending
update to me -
Patt Denan*

Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP

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Exemptions b () () E.O. 13526 25x () ()
Declassify after _____

With concurrence of: _____ obtained _____ not obt. _____

IPS by *12* Date *11-3-78*

Argentina

October 20, 1977

To: Michele

From: Patt

Letter to President Carter from President of
Argentina re Two Members of Deutsch Family

Here are some things I need to know:

1. Are they held under Executive Order?

Are they eligible for Right of Option?

If not, why?

Have we asked GOA?

2. Have they been formally charged?

The letter says they are being "detained" and "their cases will soon be submitted," indicating that this has not happened.

~~Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP~~

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3. The letter also states firmly that Liliana "belongs to the same subversive organization, working as an activist in student circles." They have yet to be tried. Is this statement of "fact" a product of a confession? Has she been tortured? If there is a confession obtained under duress, we cannot accept the veracity of such an admission.

Has the father been tortured?

4. Who has seen these people?

5. Since receipt of this letter, what sort of inquiry has been made by our own government? (In both D.C. and B.A.)

6. Is it possible that Videla wrote hoping for a stern response from President Carter underlining our interest and concern about these two people?

7. Are we certain that this letter was sent by President Videla?

The Deutsch family in the U.S. is spread through many Congressional Districts and a number of states. When the father, mother and three daughters were first taken from their home, many members of Congress called here and expressed concern. As news of this new development reaches the family there will be questions from their representatives and senators. We need to be able to answer them. They will want to know as many facts as we have and

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they will want to know what we are doing. Our recommendations to the President must reflect more than our sorrow and concern.

The son, accused in the letter, is here in the United States with his wife and children. This government assisted in the reunion of small children with son and wife and gave them entry to this country. It is my understanding that they exited from Argentina with passports on a regularly scheduled airline. Is that true?

The Deutsch's are Jews. The Jewish community in the U.S. is particularly concerned about official antisemitism in Argentina. I was called today by a member of the White House staff to speak with a representative of a Jewish organization about Mr. Deutsch and Lilliana.

It will be necessary for the President to know that many members of the family are U.S. citizens, that there is strong congressional interest, that Jewish organizations are deeply concerned, that members of Mr. Deutsch's immediate family are in this country. That in addition to the deep human concern there are serious political consequences here. Until this situation is fully understood and reviewed, there should be an immediate stop on any and all arms sales to Argentina.

If President Videla did write this letter and the answers to the first questions are all unsatisfactory, then we may have erred in our belief that Videla was trying, in the face of great opposition, to bring change to his country.

If he is thought to be doing this to retain his bona fides with the rest of the junta, there should be a clear understanding that this is unacceptable. One doesn't buy credit for toughness with human life and welfare.

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Argentina (2 of 4)